

UP TO JUNE 30, 1968

2,987 U.S. Aircraft Were Downed in North Viet Nam

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South Viet Nam MILITARY OPERATIONS

- Shelling of Saigon Kept Up: the Independence Palace Area, the U.S. Embassy and Many Enemy Nerve Centres Hit.
- My Tho Provincial Capital Attacked: 1,200 Enemy Troops Killed, Wounded or Captured; a Puppet Battalion Completely Wiped Out; Another Heavily Depleted.
- Serious Losses Inflicted on 6 Puppet Battalions Near Can Tho on June 7 and 10.
- 9 Enemy Positions in Khe Sanh Sector Simultaneously Attacked, More Than 200 G.I.'s Put out of Action.

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Samdech NORODOM Sihanouk:

"It is preposterous to demand that the Vietnamese, who live in their own country, accept the fait accompli of American invasion, recognize the colonial rights that the United States gives itself in Viet Nam, and renounce fighting aggression."

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A DEADLY THREAT TO YANKEES AND QUISLINGS:

P.L.A.F. BOMBARDMENT OF ENEMY POSITIONS IN SAIGON

A communique of Saigon-Gia Dinh P.L.A.F. command broadcast on June 9 by Gisi Phong (Liberation) Press Agency invited the inhabitants to keep clear from military bases and training centres, logistic complexes and key positions as well as ministries and departments of the puppet administration. The communique announced that P.L.A.F. artillery had received orders to go on meeting out punishment to the aggressors and traitors in their safest redoubts.

On June 11, military and strategic targets in Saigon received the heaviest shelling to date from the patriotic forces. Fired in the day time and from many directions, shells and rockets poured on the areas of Thieu's "Presidential" Palace, the U.S. Embassy, the U.S. field officers' billet, the war ministry and draft centre, the "Catnat" security centre, the main signal centre etc...

It was the 26th bombardment of Saigon since May 5 last. Previously artillery

poundings had been mounted against the residences of Thieu, Ky, Huong (puppet premier), the "National Assembly" building, the H.Q. of the Navy, Police and Psychowar Department, the townhall, the information hall, the military harbour and storehouses, etc... Gorton, the visiting Australian Premier had a narrow escape on June 7, when the hotel at which he was to put up was hit by a P.L.A.F.

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WITH his back up, Mr Harriman threatens: "Attacks on Saigon may have the most serious consequences."

Indeed, Mr Harriman does not use the same kind of logic as a common model. The eminent American diplomat finds it quite natural that 5,000 U.S. planes and helicopters, 2,000 artillery pieces and hundreds of war vessels bomb and shell Vietnamese territory day and night. But should the Vietnamese launch a few rockets on American airfields and military command posts set up on Vietnamese soil, he

SOME time or other, Mr Harriman, certain fundamental truths must be driven home to you. You should know that whenever a people is attacked, it has the right - I repeat: the right - to defend itself. A sacred, inalienable, intransigent right. The Vietnamese people will gladly welcome foreigners on their soil: tourists, men of science and culture, even businessmen. But when half a million foreigners, armed to the teeth and accompanied by thousands of tanks, planes and other engines of death, invade their land, the first

WHAT WOULD YOU DO, Mr. HARRIMAN?

would cry out violation of the most elementary rules of humanity and justice!

Mr Harriman thinks it quite normal that 550,000 G.I.s coming from California, Texas, Arizona or the frozen lands of Alaska pitch their tents in Saigon, Da Nang etc., and behave as if they were masters of Vietnamese land. But should the Vietnamese want to kick those intruders out, he would loudly complain of aggression - and foreign aggression at that. A native of Mississippi is at home in Viet Nam, but anyone ill-fated enough to be born one kilometre north of that obstruct line, the 17th parallel, is, *in* a foreigner, who has no say in the matter.

reaction of any citizen is to smother a weapon.

Any citizen - young or old, man or woman, Confucianist or Buddhist, Catholic or Marxist, Thai or Bakhar, born in Co Man or Lang Son, Hue or Haiphong. Incidentally, Mr Harriman, do you know where your men Nguyen Cao Ky was born? Indeed it would be a great deal easier for the aggression if each man said to himself: "The foreigners are attacking only such and such groups (or: such and such provinces, in the east, or in the south), it doesn't concern our group (or our region)."

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A P.L.A.F. assault

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Military Operations

FOR 7 straight days, from June 10 to 16, the P.L.A.F. again poured heavy gun fire on enemy positions in 3 districts inside Saigon, the Tan Son Nhut airbase and the port area. On the other hand, Liberation infantrymen beat the enemy at the Phu Tho race track on the western fringe of the city, and in Pham Thi Hien street in the South.

In the northern and south-western edges of Saigon, the P.L.A.F. fought off all enemy relief operations and made continual attacks on various positions in Tay Ninh, Gia Dinh and Thu Dau Mot provinces. In Bien Hoa province, north-east of Saigon, in the five days ending June 10, the guerrillas and regional troops put 200 G.I.'s out of action and shot above 3 tanks and armored cars when counter-attacking an enemy raid on former Resistance Zone D. On May 8, the P.L.A.F. attacked Phnom Binh provincial capital and seized control of the town.

Most remarkable was the attack on My Tho provincial capital on the Mekong river, 60 km southwest of Saigon, on the night of June 16: 17 positions in the town assaulted; 1,500 enemy troops killed, wounded or captured; 2 battalions of puppet Division 7, one security force company and 2 artillery companies either annihilated or badly mauled.

A military training centre also sustained losses, and a 500,000-litre petrol dump was burnt. Binh Duc base, 4 km west of My Tho, was shelled 3 times on June 1 and 17, resulting in more than 100 enemy soldiers wiped out.

Further to the southwest, in Can Tho, on June 7 and 10, the P.L.A.F. beat off a enemy counter-attacks, wiping out 200 advance troops, routing 3 battalions of puppet Division 21 and a Ranger battalion, and shooting down or damaging 9 aircraft.

In the northernmost sector, in Quang Tri province, in the first 15 days of June, the P.L.A.F. big gun fire 13 times plastered almost all U.S. positions at Ta Con (Khe Sanh), Con Tim, Con Viet, Con Gio Linh and Con Lo.

On June 15, an enemy force moving out 18 km southeast of Ta Con was violently intercepted. The engagement ended with 195 G.I.'s killed or wounded. On June 15 and 16, the P.L.A.F. hit hard at the position of Battalion 3 of the U.S. Marine Regiment 4 and 8 other hilltop positions around Ta Con, wiping out 200 G.I.'s and shooting down 2 aircraft. The enemy at Nui Ngang, 50 km southeast of Da Nang, has been under siege and constant attacks since May 5. By June 7, the P.L.A.F. operating in this area had wiped out more than 1,700 U.S. troops (4 battalions including 2 battalions and destroyed or shot down 71 aircraft of different types. In a surprise attack on May 26 against a battalion camp parking lot near Duy Xuyen, 23 km south of Da Nang, the P.L.A.F. wrecked 52 vehicles. Four days later, on May 30, an enemy 14-vehicle convoy was completely destroyed.

Latest News

On June 30, at dawn: Heavy poundings by P.L.A.F. artillery of Tan Son Nhut air base (Saigon) and 6 other South Viet Nam military targets, including Dong Ha base close to the 17th parallel shelled 4 times and turned into a big furnace on an area of 5 square kilometres.

ed in an ambush on a nearby road in Lat Loo district. American casualties ran into the hundred.

In the first 10 days of June, in the coastal fringe stretching from Da Nang to Nha Trang, the P.L.A.F. attacked the enemy in 9 provincial capitals, district towns and military subsectors and laid 4 ambushes against enemy convoys, wiping out in all 1,400 enemy troops (including 1,000 Americans), sinking or setting ablaze 16 vessels, and destroying many military vehicles. A logistic depot in the very heart of

heavily guarded Da Nang city also came under attack at noon on June 13.

The enemy was also hard hit in the Western High Plateaux. On June 6 alone, the P.L.A.F. launched simultaneous attacks against 6 enemy positions and an artillery ground in the defence system west of Poco (Kon-tum province). The assaulting forces won control of these positions, destroyed or inflicted heavy losses on 3 enemy infantry and artillery companies, and destroyed or heavily damaged 11 cannons and mortars.

P.L.A.F. BOMBARDMENT...

(Continued from page 1)

shelling some hours before his arrival. Tan Son Nhut airport in the city's northern suburb, the Long Binh logistic base and Bien Hoa airbase, northeast of Saigon, the Nha Be tankers' harbour and the canal southeast of Saigon linking to the sea were repeatedly struck by P.L.A.F. artillery. In the 30th bombardment on May 10, the mercantile port and many warehouses packed with military goods as well as several barges met with the same fate.

THESE artillery shelling prove that the P.L.A.F. firmly hold the initiative and are in a position to strike the enemy whenever and wherever they think fit. The "protection belt" of some forty-kilometre radius built around Saigon on the strength of over one hundred battalions of U.S. Australian, and puppet troops with the support of aircraft, artillery, armoured vehicles, radars and other up-to-date equipment is ineffective in face of the artillery of the patriotic forces. Here, leaving Viet Nam for good, Westmoreland admitted on June 30 that it was quite impossible to prevent these attacks.

With this fighting method, the P.L.A.F. can hit the enemy even in his last refuge in South Viet Nam. Combined with attacks by infantrymen,

guerrillas and insurgent people in urban centres, this bombardment has been shaking the puppet regime by creating a permanently unstable situation in the narrow area left to it. An AFP correspondent in Saigon reported that the June 11 shelling of the P.L.A.F. had thrown the enemy into utter panic and no place could take off and no shell was fired back. The importance of the U.S. and puppet armies is once again as clear as day light.

On the other hand, this bombardment by the P.L.A.F. has given a strong blow to the Saigonese: it has urged them to act, to rise against the oppressors and destroy their machinery of coercion.

The fact that the P.L.A.F. are today able to deploy heavy guns next to the downtown area of Saigon and then to bombard the enemy daily is a convincing proof of the local people's support for them and hate for the Yankees and their quislings. As to the accuracy and efficiency of these shelling, it is easy to find irrefutable proofs even in the enemy tabloid: the American magazine clearly itemizing the targets hit. All this conclusively gives the lie to the calumnious charges of the American authorities and their stooges that the P.L.A.F. "fire blindly" at civilians.

As early as in 1954, speaking of the bombardment of

Bien Hoa airbase on October 31 that year, Reedy, spokesman of the White House, was quoted by Western press agencies as publicly acknowledging P.L.A.F. mortar shelling of great accuracy had been concentrated on the aircraft park and U.S. barracks in that big modern airport. Four years have elapsed and one can guess what progress the P.L.A.F. gunners have made since then!

RIGHTENED by P.L.A.F. daily shelling of Saigon, the U.S. aggressors call on the Vietnamese people to show "restraint" in return for U.S. "restraint". Putting aside the trickiness of the so-called "limited bombing" of the North which has rather increased in intensity, let us stress that the shelling of Saigon is a feat by South Vietnamese patriots and the continuation of this glorious attacks launched since the new lunar year; its impetuosity can in no way be checked. As the U.S. incessantly benefits up its troop strength and increases its build-up in South Viet Nam, how can it expect any "restraint" from our compatriots there.

Furthermore, what is asked from an aggressor is not to show "restraint" in his aggression but to and once any "this edition again". As for the victim of aggression, his right of self-defence which conforms to ethics and



P.L.A.F. artillery constantly on the move.

justice, must be exercised hundred per cent, and not fifty or seventy per cent only.

Regarding the "crimes" committed by the P.L.A.F. against the Saigon, as claimed by the U.S. aggressors, the Western press has supplied proofs to the contrary. The indiscriminate and systematic slaughter and destruction which are of daily occurrence in South Viet Nam have been deliberately caused by U.S. use of its huge fire-power. Thus, according to *UPI* and *AFP*, on May 8, two U.S. choppers fired rockets on a refugees' camp in Saigon while B-52s carried out carpet bombing on the populous periphery of that city of 3 million souls. *Reuter* reported the same day that these U.S. bombings and shelling had taken a toll of over 2,000 civilian casualties and destroyed at least 3,000 dwelling houses in Saigon, and that

these figures would be doubled with the addition of the havoc wrought by the fire getting 9 populated city areas.

Interviewed by a correspondent of the English paper *Daily Telegraph* (June 13 issue), Joseph Guimet, the French priest in charge of the Saint Francis Xavier Church in Cholon, declared that the P.L.A.F. had not caused any damage to his church, a shelter for 3,000 people, though it was then occupied by puppet troops. Eighty per cent of the damage was done by U.S. helicopter firing, the priest added.

As further evidence of U.S.-caused destruction, let us mention the death of the "mayor" and of some high-ranking puppet chiefs in Saigon occasioned not by the "Viet Cong," but by the American aggressors themselves.